



a GK Technologies subsidiary

APRIL, 1980

LOG

1980 OUTLOOK: COMMENT FROM THE CHAIRMAN



As we review our achievements of the past year, we are able to face the challenges of 1980, some old and many new, with a confidence based upon the record of a good team effort. There was, as there continues to be, a specific job for each of us to do every day and it has been done with dedication and pride. For this, each one of us is grateful to the other and I add my personal thanks to all of you.

Our eager competition has not gone away. Although some of the names and faces may have changed, it is, if anything, more ingenious and more aggressive than ever; partly, of course, because all of us are working hard to defend and improve our position in the marketplace.

If we fellow workers do not skillfully overcome the heavy impact of the many facets of inflation with the same determination you are required to exercise in your own home, we shall be seriously hurt. And it could be that the ultimate consequences of an inflation out of control might be a recession, the early signs of which we must recognize and be prepared for.

We have reasons, however, to be optimistic. The exciting and growing electrical and electronics industries, of which we are a vital and important part, are here to stay and are far from being stagnant. The future is filled with thrilling possibilities and imaginative pioneers. We propose to stay abreast with the future; indeed, we have no other choice.

With the cooperation, assistance, and supportive resources of our parent corporation, GK Technologies, Inc., we shall dedicate the required research, development and capital investments toward keeping ahead of the times and the troubles.

You have demonstrated the will and the competence for continuing successes. With sincere gratitude for this devotion, we solicit your continuing faithful participation.

Neal W. Welch
Chairman of the Board

SPRAGUE RECOGNIZED AT SANFORD YMCA DEDICATION

In late December the new 1.5 million dollar Sanford-Springvale YMCA Family Center was formally dedicated. The Sprague Electric Company and employees at the Sanford, Maine plant played a significant role in making the "Y" a reality. The Sanford plant employs some 1300 people, making it the area's largest employer. Sprague Electric Company, a recognized leader in the community, donated \$50,000 to the building fund campaign. The money was used to construct the beautiful all-purpose room (the main room of the facility). Sanford employees contributed some \$6500 to the project through its employee benefit fund. As a result of this generosity the entire foyer of the building stands as a memorial to Sprague Electric employees.

Participating in the dedication were Bob Poitras, Sanford Plant Manager, Bob Arena, Industrial Relations Manager and Edith Bourque, Sanford employee, representing the employee benefit fund. In touching ceremonies special bronze plaques were unveiled as a memorial to Sprague Electric Company and its employee benefit fund. The three Sprague employees attending were extremely pleased and proud to be part of the dedication and to be able to represent the Company and its employees. The Sprague gifts obviously represented the Company's belief in and support of the Sanford community.



Sprague all purpose room at the new Sanford-Springvale YMCA Family Center.



Edith Bourque, representing the Sprague Electric Sanford employees benefit fund, and Bob Arena, Industrial Relations Manager are shown in foyer of the new Sanford-Springvale YMCA Family Center built through the gift of the benefit fund.



Lisa Beckwith, Receptionist, is very much a part of the lovely decor of the newly constructed reception area recently completed at the North Adams Marshall Street plant.

MANAGEMENT CHANGES

Management changes since our last publication include:

Annapolis Junction:	Gary Vest, Product Specialist
Barre:	Ronald Allen, Process/Product Engineer
Brownsville:	Ralph Boisjolie, Design & Plant Engineer; Lettie H. Smith, Buyer
Clinton:	Leroy Robbins, Manager Equipment Design Engineering; Arthur Dyer, Division Equipment Engineering Manager; Gene Hunsucker, Division Electrical/Electronic Systems Manager; Larry Forsythe, Section Head-Maintenance; William Slater, Manager Manufacturing Engineering
Concord:	Randall C. Love, Programmer Analyst; Paul Mooseman, Equipment Design Engineer; Allyne Kendall, Product Marketing Engineer, Arthur B. Bainton, Process Engineer
Grafton:	Harry G. Pruett, Jr., Sr. Product Engineer; Alan B. Marx, Production Foreman; Navin Sanghvi, Production Control Manager; Shirley Klippel, Supervisor Production Planning; George Mantey, Materials Manager, Charles A. Cook, Plant Manager
Hillsville:	Vernon G. Marshall, Supervisor of Cost Accounting; Carl Price, Plant Controller
Nashua:	James D. Cobleigh, Manager Manufacturing Services; Ronald E. Theberge, Manager Methods & Planning Engineering; Thomas W. Caovette, Process/Product Engineer
North Adams:	Valery S. Wolfson, Process/Product Engineer; Martha Weidhaas, Production Control Manager; Dennis Klein, Co-Pilot; Robert Pecor, Manager Production Planning & Control; Herbert Rice, Operations Product Engineering Manager; Franklin Frantz, Supervisor Physical Testing Laboratory; Carl Famiano, Manager Product Engineering; David A. Shoats, Methods & Planning Engineer; Gilbert Green, Process/Product Engineer; John Breen, Assistant Corporate Traffic Manager; Gerald Bunting, Supervisor Equipment Construction; John D. Werner, Shop Foreman-Aviation Maintenance; Patrick McPoland, General Accountant; Jane E. Howell, General Accountant; John D. Henderson, Sr. Product Specialist; Donald J. Boyer, Corporate Protection & Security Specialist; Dennis Dickinson, Production Foreman; Dianne C. Lebert-Lee, Product Engineer, Bruce Boucher, Programmer Analyst; Richard G. Zens, Jr., Section Head Mechanical Engineering, Steven Lloyd, Manpower Control Analyst; Wei-Tao Wang, Product Engineer
Sales:	Douglas M. Gordon, Sales Engineer, Los Angeles; Albert P. Pavelko, Sales Engineer, Los Angeles; Bradford S. Cady, Account Specialist, Arizona; Stephen Callahan, Sales Engineer, Syracuse
Sanford:	James S. Bates, Process Engineer; Ronald Ferland, Production Planning Supervisor; Peter Bosse, Process Engineer; Shirley K. Violette, Production Planner; Michael Allen, Production Foreman
Visalia:	Phillip L. Brownlee, Process/Product Engineer; John F. Rogers, Product Specialist, Jack L. Blunt, Sr. Manufacturing Engineer
Wichita Falls:	James Warengo, Sr. Process Engineer; Laura Cardinal, Division Administrative/Financial Assistant;

Joseph Demanche, Equipment Design Engineer; Lonnie Williams, Production Control Manager; Earl Ayle, Materials Manager

Worcester: Sharon Parent, Production Foreman; Steven Sherwood, Process Engineer; Jack J. Beauparin, Product Engineer; Wayne Friberg, Product Engineer; David A. Hynes, Systems & Data Processing Supervisor; Georgia Putnam, Customer Service Representative, Peter R. Loconto, Director of Product Development and Marketing, Kerry Enright, Product Marketing Engineer

CLINTON EMPLOYEES HAVE OUTSTANDING BLOOD DRIVE

For many years, residents of Anderson County, Tennessee, enjoyed the benefit of free blood replacement through the Nashville Chapter of the American Red Cross. When the major hospital in Anderson County abruptly dropped the Red Cross in favor of Medica, a local supplier, residents of Anderson County lost this important benefit. Under the new plan only individuals and employees of companies were eligible to participate. Medica was contacted and it was found all employees could be covered if 30% would donate blood. Clinton employees rose to the challenge. A letter was mailed to the home of all employees explaining the present situation and requesting their help.

The response was encouraging but amounted to only 10% of the employees. Over the next two weeks, all employees were contacted at work by department representatives. By the day before the drive, slightly over 30% of our employees had pledged to donate blood.

On the day of the drive, 1-2 inches of snow covered a freezing rain, which had previously fallen, creating hazardous driving conditions in the hills of East Tennessee. In spite of these conditions, the majority of employees made it to work.

The Medica van finally made it to the plant and the drive began, 30 minutes behind schedule. Throughout the day, additional appeals were made over the public address system and Clinton employees responded. By the end of the day, 40% of our employees had gone into the van to donate blood.

Medic officials were astounded by the turnout, citing this as one of the best examples of employee participation they had seen. Clinton employees also helped satisfy a critical need for blood in the area since all other donor sites for the day had cancelled because of the weather.

As a result of this outstanding effort by Clinton employees, all employees and their dependents will be supplied with any blood need arising during the next year. We are proud!

SPRAGUE ELECTRIC LOG ISSUE 1, 1980

Norma M. Hays, Editor

Associate Editors:

Robert M. Arena, Sanford	Stuart A. Sutherland, Orlando
David C. Cates, Visalia, Los Angeles	Fred T. Thompson, North Adams
James P. Clucus, Barre	Thomas D. Vangel, Worcester, Micro-Tech
James R. Desens, Grafton	Hugh H. VanZelm, Jr., Annapolis Junction
Robert J. Diodati, North Adams	Clayton D. Weaver, Lansing
McDaniel Harless, Hillsville	Albert L. Zigler, Jr., Wichita Falls
William R. Kuslaka, Concord	Brownsville
Marion H. Manion, North Adams	William Williams III, Clinton
Michael Gagne, Nashua	

Paul F. Sprague — Photographer

BOYER JOINS CORPORATE SECURITY



Donald J. Boyer has been appointed Corporate Protection and Security Specialist on the Corporate Relations staff. He joins Sprague Electric following 22 years as a police officer on the Williamstown police force.

Mr. Boyer is a graduate of the Massachusetts State Police Training Academy in Framingham and attended Berkshire Community College, Pittsfield, Massachusetts, in its law enforcement program. His extensive experience in investigation will be of great value in the handling of Sprague plant protection and related problems.

Prior to joining the Williamstown police force, Mr. Boyer was employed by Cornish Wire Co., now GK Technologies, for several years and was also in the U. S. Navy.

NEW GRAFTON PLANT MANAGER

Charles A. Cook has accepted the managership of our Grafton, Wisc. ceramic capacitor facility.

Chuck has been with Sprague Electric since August, 1976, most recently as Director of Corporate Engineering in the Corporate Research, Engineering, and Development Department, with responsibility for device development, materials engineering, process engineering, engineering methods and procedures, and equipment development and engineering.

Chuck came to Sprague Electric from the Zenith Radio Corporation, where he was Director of Engineering for the Rauland Cathode Ray Tube Division. In his 14 years with Zenith he progressively rose to the top engineering post in the Rauland operation.

His first position with Sprague Electric was Administrative Engineering Manager for Passive Components, and he was later Director, Corporate Passive Components Engineering.

Mr. Cook received his B.S. in chemistry and mathematics from Stetson University and his M.S. in organic chemistry from Southern Illinois University. He has also attended the Tulsa University Law School and the Chicago-Kent School of Law.

LOCONTO NAMED DIRECTOR OF PRODUCT DEVELOPMENT AND MARKETING

Peter R. Loconto has been appointed to the new post of Director of Product Development and Marketing for the Integrated Circuit Operations at Worcester.

Peter has been with the Semiconductor Division since 1969, except for a short period in the early seventies. He returned to Sprague Electric in 1974 to the then new post of Manager, Digital Products. Peter received his technical education at Central New England College and Lowell Technological Institute. He was a design engineer for the Raytheon Company before originally joining Sprague as an applications engineer for integrated circuits.

Peter will continue as Acting Product Manager for Digital Products for the time being.

1979 SUGGESTION SYSTEM A SUCCESS

Hugh H. van Zelm, Jr.

The 1979 formal suggestion system resulted in \$36,595 in cash awards for Sprague Electric employees.

Our goal had been 20% over the 1978 figure of \$30,651 awards which would have been \$36,781. The plants collectively came within 1/2 a percent of the goal.

The competition between some plants is getting greater as cost conscious location heads are pushing for higher savings as employee morale increases with more in-pocket cash!

Some of the plants deserve special praise:

Highest Amount Awarded at *One Time* — Nashua, 1st, with \$3,138; North Adams, 2nd, with \$3,010

Most Awards — Concord — 51
Most Money Saved at Plant — Wichita Falls, 1st — \$41,175; Sanford, 2nd — \$34,969

A for Effort — Lansing — 11 meetings, 43 awards totaling \$5,233

Plants who surpassed the goal set last year were Clinton, Dearborn, Grafton, Hillsville, Lansing, Nashua and North Adams.

Here's to a successful 1980 suggestion award year. The suggestion methods investigators deserve another "A" for effort.

SANFORD SPONSORS ENERGY DAY

December 11, 1979, was Energy Day in the Sanford Plant. The idea was formulated and sponsored by the Energy Conservation Committee at Sanford.

The purpose of the day was to bring a speaker from the State Energy Resources Department, provide and display a booth, and give a tour of the plant to the members of the State Energy Committee. The display booth was set up in the plant cafeteria. This appeared to be the highlight of the day. The booth contained a variety of pamphlets and booklets on energy tips, Solar energy news, gasoline saving ideas, and information on heating with wood. Employees were able to choose the materials in which they were most interested. A representative from the State of Maine Department of Energy Resources was available for questions. Information on ride share programs, van pooling, and car pooling was also available. The Department of Energy is planning to send another representative to the plant to discuss this program in February.

Representatives from the Energy Resources Department were given a plant tour and were shown the various ways Sprague Electric has been able to conserve energy. Mr. Myron Zimmerman, a consultant with the Department, spoke to management on ways of conserving energy in a plant the size of Sanford. Both representatives were very impressed with the steps that Sanford had already taken and strongly urged the plant to apply for one of the awards that the state will be giving out this spring.



Sanford employees examine material on energy conservation at display booth.



LITTLE MISS AMERICA

Wilma Russell (Film Line) and her husband, Kenneth, are happy proud grandparents. On January 6 their granddaughter, Desiree Russell, age 6, of Waukegan, Illinois was crowned "Little Miss America" at the 3rd annual pageant. The Russell's son and daughter-in-law, John and Denise, are Desiree's parents. Desiree was crowned Miss North Illinois last year, and went on to win the National title. She won 13 trophies, including one 7 feet tall, was 3rd runner-up in bathing suit, 1st in personality and 1st in Party Dress competition. Among her awards were \$2,000 Scholar-



ship-Bond, trip to London and trip to San Juan, Puerto Rico, color TV, wardrobe, rabbit fur coat, diamond ring, diamond earrings, 3 cameras, luggage, bicycle, gym set, juke box, watch and 11 x 14 color portrait. Awards totaled nearly \$10,000. We all join in congratulations to Desiree and her family.

BROWN ST. EMPLOYEE RECEIVES \$3,010 FOR SUGGESTION

Katherine P. Kolis, a 24-year employee, was awarded two checks totaling \$3,010 for her suggestions to improve a manufacturing process at the Brown Street plant. It was the second largest amount awarded at one time since the suggestion system has been in effect.

An award of \$2,330 was made for Mrs. Kolis' idea to insert a spacer in trays of capacitors to prevent damage to the components during the manufacturing process. An additional check for \$680 was given for her suggestion that certain electronic components be color-coded during production so that voltage ratings can be easily distinguished.



Katherine P. Kolis receives a check for \$3,010 from Craig Ghidotti, Assistant Manager of Industrial Relations, while Brown Street Plant Manager Bruce Woodger looks on. Mrs. Kolis received the award for submitting two suggestions for manufacturing changes that the company plans to implement.

\$3,138 SUGGESTION AWARD AT NASHUA

Armand Dube, Nashua plant employee, was presented \$3,138 for an award that has resulted in a significant financial saving. The winning suggestion involved gate mold blocks and was the largest single suggestion award in the history of the firm. The award was presented to Dube by James Cobleigh, manager of manufacturing services.

HILLSVILLE SERVICE AWARDS

15 Year Awards: Mildred Webb, Gladys Hill, Lorene Coleman, Judy Gardner, Pattie Sumner, Norma Ruth Goad, Helen Brooks, Charlene Nelson, Virginia M. Bowman, Carl Fariss, Ava Quesenberry, Vada Norris, Dorothy Hall, Bonnie Phillips, Hazel Melton, Iva Bunn, Bonnie Kimble, Melva Nester, Sandra Cockerham, Barbara Jett, Conaleah Dickerson, Eldon Russell, Junior Sharpe, Charles Lineback, Bennie Akers, Reiford Harmon, Clyde Edwards, Elmo Nester, Dennis Jennings, Dewey Marshall, Donald Bowman, Virginia Turman.

10 Year Awards: Barbara Harmon, Nancy Nester, Carolyn Edwards, Madeline Lineberry, Shirley Bowman, Heath Newman, Clayton Edwards, Russell Burkholder, Larry Anderson.

5 Year Awards: Janet Marshall, Virginia Faye Newman, Bill Higgins, Linda Lundy, Alpha Martin, Dale Akers, Mary Richardson, Henry Carpenter, Bonnie Gravely, Freida Shockley, Imogene Spence, Leon Caviness, Margie Ayers.

MARYLAND FILTER FACILITY EXPANDS

Our filter facility at Annapolis Junction, Maryland will be experiencing growing pains this spring as the present building size will be almost doubled. Plans are for more production space, a larger lunch room



LOG

BULK RATE
U. S. POSTAGE
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North Adams, Mass.
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and a new data processing area. The parking area will also be enlarged. The new walls should start going up this month. The decision to expand is welcomed by the Maryland work force as business volume has outgrown space available in the plant.

SAFETY NEWS

Philip T. Brucato

"No chemical is safe all the time everywhere, but without chemicals life itself would be impossible." Sound familiar? You probably heard it on TV as part of the Monsanto commercial. In the commercial Monsanto alerts the general public to the fact that we live in an environment that is made up of chemicals. As a matter of fact, many of your household cleaners, paints and aerosol deodorants and hairsprays contain chemicals which are regulated under the Workplace Safety Act (OSHA). Many of these products are flammable and require caution when handling. The point to be made is that chemicals in themselves do not present a hazard. It is when we do not handle them properly or don't take necessary precautions that an accident could result.

To prevent accidents from occurring it is important to follow directions and safety rules. Some of the more common rules are:

- Store in a cool place
- Use in a well ventilated area
- Keep away from flames

One of the most basic and most important rules is to use good personal hygiene. When you come in contact with a chemical or just before eating or smoking, you should wash your hands and any other exposed areas. This will not only reduce the chances of dermatitis (skin disease), but will also prevent the ingestion of any chemicals. By following this basic safety rule in conjunction with established safety (handling) procedures, *you* can prevent an accident from occurring.



Concord's answer to the energy crunch is demonstrated by from left to right, Lorraine Bernard, Debra Campbell and Linda Presby. It certainly makes for a warmer reception when you visit Concord's Incoming Inspection Area.